

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 SSO-00 INRE-00  
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-----112822 050848Z /10

O P 031341Z AUG 78 ZDK CITE HCS 0233M  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9060  
INFO SIT-REP COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER  
USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM  
CINCUSNAVEUR, LONDON ENG  
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GER  
COMSIXTHFLT  
CTF SIX ZERO  
CTF SIX ONE  
CTF SIX TWO  
CTG SIX ZERO PT TWO  
FICEURLANT NORFOLK VA  
FOSIF ROTA SPAIN  
DIA WASHDC  
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GER  
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINS, PINT, MILI, ASEC, LE  
SUBJECT: LEBANESE SITUATION: AUGUST 3, 1978 - 1600 HOURS LOCAL

REF: BEIRUT 4414 (DTG 021250Z AUG 78)

1. SUMMARY. A LEBANESE ARMY BATTALION REMAINS HALTED IN KAWKABA.  
AS A RESULT, LEBANON'S AMBASSADOR TO THE UN RETURNED TO NEW YORK  
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TO DISCUSS SOUTH LEBANON. SHELLS AGAIN HIT WEST BEIRUT, AND THERE  
WAS AGAIN FIGHTING IN AYN AR-RUMMANEH. FATAH AND PRO-IRAQI GUER-  
RILLAS CLASHED IN THE BADDAWI REFUGEE CAMP NORTH OF TRIPOLI, AND  
PALESTINIANS (PRESUMABLY FATAH) FIRED ON THE CAR OF THE IRAQI  
AMBASSADOR IN WEST BEIRUT. THE CABINET REPORTEDLY PROMOTED ARMY  
COMMANDER VICTOR KHOURY AND OTHERS. THE MARONITE PATRIARCH MET  
WITH POPE FAUL IN THE VATICAN. END SUMMARY.

2. LEBANESE BATTALION STILL HALTED. A LEBANESE ARMY BATTALION REMAINS HALTED AT KAWKABA, IN SOUTH LEBANON. DURING THE NIGHT OF AUGUST 2-3, CHRISTIAN MILITIAMEN AGAIN SHELLED THE GENERAL AREA OF THE BATTALION, ALTHOUGH REPORTS VARY ON THE INTENSITY OF THE FIRING. ACCORDING TO ENGLISH LANGUAGE IKE ON AUGUST 3, MILITIA LEADER SA'AD HADDAD HAS REJECTED AN ORDER OF THE GOL THAT HE REPORT TO THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE AT YARZE. HADDAD INSTEAD DEMANDED THAT EITHER: (A) THE LEBANESE ARMY WITHDRAW FROM KAWKABA OR, (B) UNIFIL WITHDRAW FROM THE KAWKABA AREA SO THAT HIS MEN COULD SHELL THE LEBANESE TROOPS, IKE SAID.

3. LEBANESE UNDERTAKE CONTACTS ON THE SOUTH. AS A RESULT OF THE SITUATION IN THE SOUTH, GHASSAN TUENI, LEBANON'S AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS, LEFT FOR NEW YORK ON AUGUST 2 TO MEET WITH SECRETARY GENERAL KURT WALDHEIM AND SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS, THE PRESS REPORTED. PRIME MINISTER SALIM AL-HOSS TOLD REPORTERS AUGUST 2 THAT HE COULD NOT RULE OUT A LEBANESE REQUEST FOR A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL. HOSS LATER MET AT HIS HOME IN DOHA WITH PLO HEAD YASIR ARAFAT. IKE QUOTED INFORMED SOURCES AS SAYING THE TWO MEN HAD A "COMPLETE IDENTITY OF VIEWS" ON THE ENTRY OF THE LEBANESE ARMY INTO SOUTH LEBANON.

4. SHELLS HIT WEST BEIRUT AGAIN. SHELLS HIT WEST BEIRUT FOR THE SECOND STRAIGHT DAY ON AUGUST 2. ACCORDING TO A COMMUNIQUE OF THE ARAB DETERRENT FORCES: "UNIDENTIFIED GROUPS MANAGED TO SHELL WEST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BEIRUT NEIGHBORHOODS HITTING THE BARBIR AREA WITH THREE SHELLS, HAMAD STREET WITH TWO AND THE JALLOUL AREA WITH ONE. SEVEN PEOPLE SUFFERED WOUNDS IN THIS ATTACK." THE SOURCE OF THE FIRING REMAINS UNKNOWN. SPECULATION HAS RANGED FROM CHRISTIAN MILITIAMEN IN EAST BEIRUT TO OVERSHOTS RESULTING FROM CLASHES BETWEEN FATAH AND PRO-IRAQI PALESTINIANS IN WEST BEIRUT.

5. AYN AR-RUMMANEH SHELLED AGAIN. THERE WAS AGAIN FIGHTING IN AYN AR-RUMMANEH THE NIGHT OF AUGUST 2, ACCORDING TO PHALANGIST VOICE OF LEBANON. THREE PEOPLE WERE KILLED AND FIFTEEN WOUNDED, THE RADIO SAID

6. INTER-PALESTINIAN CLASHES. FATAH CLASHED WITH THE PRO-IRAQI PALESTINIAN LIBERATION FRONT (PLF) AND OTHER REJECTIONISTS IN BADDAWI CAMP NORTH OF TRIPOLI ON AUGUST 1 AND 2. ACCORDING TO LEFTIST AS SAFIR, 30 TO 35 PEOPLE, MOSTELY CIVILIANS, WERE KILLED IN THE CAMP, AND THE FIGHTING HAD ALSO SPREAD TO THE AL-KIBAH QUARTER OF TRIPOLI. RIGHTIST AL BAYRAQ SAID THAT FATAH HAD SUCCEEDED IN ESTABLISHING CONTROL OVER THE CAMP.

7. ATTACK ON IRAQI AMBASSADOR'S CAR. ACCORDING TO THE IRAQI NEWS AGENCY (INA), "RIGHTWING PALESTINIAN ELEMENTS" FIRED ON THE CAR

OF THE IRAQI AMBASSADOR NEAR SABRA CAMP IN WEST BEIRUT ON AUGUST  
2. ONLY THE AMBASSADOR'S DRIVER AND BODYGUARD WERE IN THE CAR,  
WHICH WAS NOT HIT, INA SAID. COMMENT: FATAH IS ALMOST CERTAINLY  
RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS INCIDENT. FATAH IS CONDUCTING AN INTER-  
NATIONAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST IRAQ. END COMMENT.

8. MILITARY OFFICERS PROMOTED. ACCORDING TO BEIRUT PRESS, THE  
CABINET ON AUGUST 2 DECIDED TO PROMOTE ARMY COMMANDER VICTOR  
KHOORY FROM BRIGADIER TO MAJOR GENERAL, CHIEF OF STAFF MUNIR TORBEY  
FROM COLONEL TO BRIGADIER GENERAL, AND INTERNAL SECURITY FORCES  
COMMANDER AHMED AL-HAJJ FROM COLONEL TO BRIGADIER GENERAL. THE GOL  
HAS ISSUED NO OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE SUBJECT, HOWEVER.

9. KHORAICHE SEES POPE PAUL. MARONITE PATRIARCH ANTONIOS  
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KHORAICHE MET WITH POPE PAUL IN THE VATICAN ON AUGUST 2. AN NAHAR  
REPORTED THAT THE PATRIARCH SAID IN A TELEPHONE INTERVIEW THAT  
THE POPE CRIED WHEN HE HEARD ABOUT THE SUFFERING OF THE LEBANESE  
PEOPLE.

DECON 10/3/78.  
PARKER

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